

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 6 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 25.2 million during the week ending March 13, 2004. Placements were up 6 percent from the comparable week in 2003, but down 2 percent from the previous week, and included 3.0 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through March 13, 2004 were 271.4 million, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

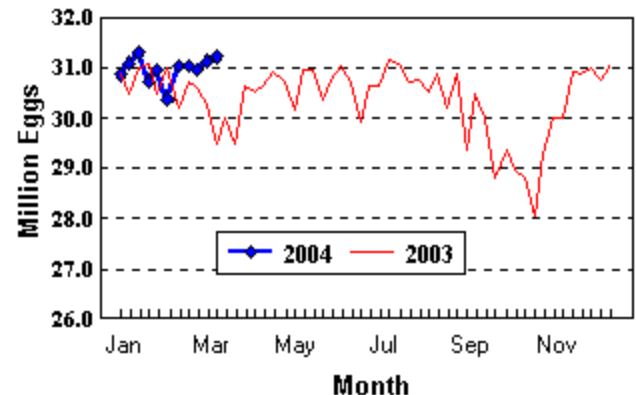
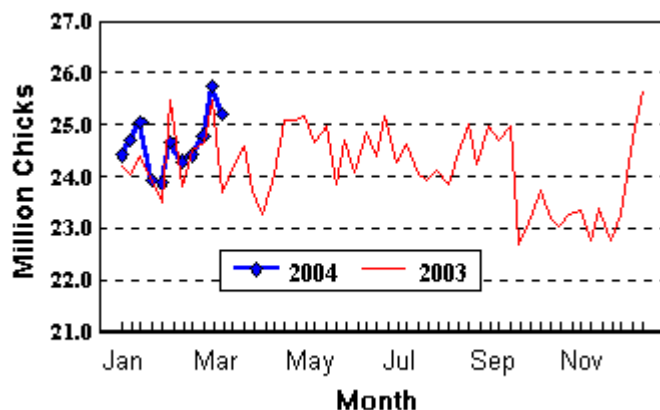
The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.5 million, down slightly from the corresponding week a year earlier, and also from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.9 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.1 percent.

Arkansas hatcheries set 31.2 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending March 13, 2004, up 6 percent from the same period last year, and up slightly from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2003	2004	% Change	2003	2004	% Change	2003	2004	% Change
	<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>		
Feb. 7	25,475	24,701	97	25,519	25,821	101	30,994	30,374	98
Feb. 14	23,806	24,306	102	25,709	25,491	99	30,194	31,055	103
Feb. 21	24,509	24,458	100	25,149	25,694	102	30,762	31,033	101
Feb. 28	24,680	24,831	101	25,645	25,002	97	30,603	30,948	101
Mar. 6	25,491	25,759	101	25,042	25,559	102	30,315	31,160	103
Mar. 13	23,738	25,228	106	25,582	25,468	100	29,522	31,225	106

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2003-2004

EGGS SET, 2003 - 2004



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2004

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	21-Feb	28-Feb	06-Mar	13-Mar		07-Feb	14-Feb	21-Feb	28-Feb	06-Mar	13-Mar	
Alabama	29,778	30,416	30,426	29,851	105	21,502	21,695	20,929	21,906	21,665	21,762	101
ARKANSAS	31,033	30,948	31,160	31,225	106	24,701	24,306	24,458	24,831	25,759	25,228	106
Delaware	2,976	3,091	3,085	3,199	85	4,730	4,183	5,126	4,512	4,145	4,799	105
Florida	1,363	1,359	1,359	1,334	92	1,859	1,689	1,956	1,425	1,695	1,711	103
Georgia	33,334	33,352	32,686	32,896	104	25,821	25,613	25,969	26,370	26,205	26,331	105
Kentucky	7,034	6,945	7,047 *	7,099	110	5,589 *	4,551 *	5,648 *	6,196 *	5,717 *	5,891	119
Maryland	8,846	8,854	8,861	8,826	88	5,657	6,394	5,302	5,815	6,312	5,633	90
Mississippi	19,179	19,061	19,219	19,172	102	16,598	16,309	16,524	16,379	16,404	16,421	104
N. Carolina	18,641 *	18,615	18,437	18,986	104	14,056	14,246	14,067	14,229	14,409	15,067	102
Oklahoma	6,519	6,430	6,516	6,506	98	4,902	4,916	4,369	4,842	4,087	5,037	113
Pennsylvania	3,693	3,805 *	3,845 *	3,773	108	2,646	2,676	2,502	2,634 *	2,771 *	2,713	115
S. Carolina	3,767	3,810	3,781	3,836	79	4,162	4,154	4,154	3,795	3,980	3,721	84
Texas	15,012 *	15,097 *	15,078 *	15,101	102	12,183 *	12,191 *	12,230 *	12,125 *	12,320 *	12,354	100
Virginia	6,417	6,520	6,544	6,606	100	5,634	5,099	4,925	4,890	5,093	4,992	94
CA,LA,MO,TN,WV	21,191	21,722	21,578	21,610	106	18,897	18,858	18,508	18,388	18,747	18,802	94
Total 2004	208,783 *	210,025 *	209,622 *	210,020		168,937 *	166,880 *	166,667 *	168,337 *	169,309 *	170,462	
Total 2003	204,584	206,547	207,539	204,958		164,887	165,871	164,469	163,548	165,230	167,239	
%Prev. Year	102	102	101	102		102	101	101	103	102	102	
Approximate Marketing Date 2004.....						27-Mar	03-Apr	10-Apr	17-Apr	24-Apr	01-May	

* Revised. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 210 million eggs during the week ending March 13, 2004. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 170 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 13, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through March 13, 2004 were 1.85 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.